

North Dakota Parks & Recreation Department

## NEWS RELEASE

*For Immediate Release, Monday, April 28, 2014*

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### ***Icelandic State Park leads effort to secure unique car***

Icelandic State Park and the Pembina County Historical Society are leading the effort to raise funds to purchase a 1925 Case Model X Suburban Coupe originally belonging to G.B Gunlogson and bring it home to become an important link to the Gunlogson saga at Icelandic State Park which is celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2014.

In June the rare coupe, one of only 139 Model X Case cars built and the only know existing Suburban Coupe, comes up for auction in Maryland. If successful in the purchase the car will be housed and on display to the public at the Pembina County Historical Museum and will be used for special occasions at Icelandic State Park and the museum.

Gunlogson grew up near Akra on the family homestead which has been preserved as an integral part of Icelandic State Park and placed on the National Register of Historic Places. Gunlogson is the donor of the land where both Icelandic State Park and the Pembina County Historical Museum grounds are located. He also generously contributed to several organizations and institutions in the county.

Gunlogson was a mover and shaker for Case, rising through the ranks and becoming head of the Case Motor Car Division in 1925. This is when he purchased the Suburban Coupe, eventually giving it to his sister Loa who continued to live on the family farm and drove this Case car throughout the community. Loa traded the car to Cavalier's Case dealer Harold Morrison who later sold it to Irl Goode of LaMoure, ND. In 1988 Herb Wessel of Maryland purchased the car at an estate sale.

While restoring the vehicle, Wessel found a layer of Case orange paint with the lettering Cavalier Motor & Implement which supports the car's story. Wessel is offering the Model X at auction in June.

A representative of the Pembina County Historical Society is attending the June auction in Maryland with the intent to purchase the vehicle. Those wanting to be a part of this endeavor can contribute to the fund -- in the event the bid is not successful, donations will be returned.

Contributions to this exciting project can be sent to Gunlogson Case Car Fund, Icelandic State Park, 13571 Hwy 5, Cavalier, ND 58220. All donations are tax deductible within the limits of the IRS. For further information, contact Justin Robinson, ISP Manager, at 701-265-4561 or Jim Benjaminson at 701-549-3746.